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PRESS RELEASE

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**L.A. COUNTY OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
ISSUES FLASH FLOOD SAFETY TIPS**

The National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration National Weather Service (NWS) is forecasting heavy rainfall that may trigger debris and mud flows. A NWS Flash Flood Watch has been issued for the Los Angeles County burn areas including; Colby, Powerhouse, Station and Williams. The NWS Flash Flood Watch is also being issued for Acton, Antelope Valley, Lancaster, Los Angeles County Mountains, Palmdale, Pasadena, San Gabriel, San Gabriel Mountains, Mt. Wilson and Pomona effective in the early morning through late night on Tuesday, December 2, 2014.

To help prepare residents, who live in or below the burn areas, for this rain storm and potential debris mud flows, the following are some safety tips:

- If a flash flood occurs move immediately to higher ground.
- Be aware of streams, drainage channels, canyons, and other areas known to flood suddenly. Flash floods can occur in these areas with or without warnings such as rain clouds or heavy rain.
- If a landslide and/or debris flow occurs, danger is imminent, quickly move away from the path of the slide. Getting out of the path of the slide and/or debris mudflow is your best protection. Move to the high ground in a direction away from the path. If rocks and debris are approaching, run to the safest area and take cover.
- Be aware of any sudden increase or decrease in water level on a stream or creek that might indicate debris mudflow upstream. A trickle of flowing mud may precede a larger flow. Look for tilted trees, telephone poles, fences or walls, and for new holes or bare spots on hillsides. Listen for rumbling sounds that might indicate an approaching landslide or mudflow. Be alert when driving. Roads may become blocked or closed due to collapsed pavement or debris.

Los Angeles County residents and businesses, including persons with disabilities and others with access and functional needs, may call 211 LA County for emergency preparedness information, and other referral services. The toll-free 2-1-1 number is available 24 hours a day and seven days a week. 211 LA County services can also be accessed at <http://211la.org>. To register for the Specific Needs Awareness Planning program please go to <https://snap.lacounty.gov>. For disaster/emergency preparedness information, please access <http://lacoa.org> and/or <http://espfocus.org>.

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